

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether an extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium *in vitro*, ~~in the absence of IL-2~~, has a LAK activity-enhancing effect suitable for a subject, comprising the steps of:

- (a) isolating peripheral blood from the subject to prepare lymphocyte fractions,
- (b) preparing a LAK-induced sample by treating the lymphocyte fractions with the extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium ~~in the absence of IL-2~~, and preparing a control sample in the absence of the extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium, and
- (c) measuring and comparing the LAK activity of the LAK- induced sample and the control sample to determine *in vitro* whether the extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium has a LAK activity-enhancing effect suitable for the subject,

wherein said extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium is prepared by a method comprising the steps of:

crushing and delignifying a solid medium containing *Lentinus edodes* mycelium in the presence of water and one or more additive enzymes selected from cellulase, protease or glucosidase, to prepare a suspension, wherein said solid medium is based on bagasse and defatted rice bran; and

raising the temperature of said suspension to sufficient temperature to inactivate the one or more enzymes.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Withdrawn) A screening material containing an extract of *Lentinus edodes* mycelium capable of being used in the *in vitro* screening method of claim 1 to screen if the LAK activity can be enhanced *in vivo*.

4. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a tumor of a subject by *in vivo* administering the screening material of claim 2.